The good 'book'

Great job again this year! Airman magazine is my favorite publication and "The Book" [January 2005] is my favorite part of your publication. I love the way you highlight our troops and the articles are very interesting. I truly appreciate the information you provide to my deployable troops. We liked the "Battle Rattle" poster inserted in the issue so well we framed and hung it up for our expeditionary teams as a reference. Thank you for what you do and know that your magazine gets read cover-to-cover in this fire house.

— Everett Allen Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

Apply here

I just received a hard copy of the

"Today's Airmen" [December 2004]. My colleagues and I read through the articles and were particularly interested in the one entitled "A Different Kind of Dancing." There was a sidebar that provided career field facts about intelligence officers (14NX) that listed: "Civilian Application: None."

There are actually a wide range of civilian applications for intelligence specialists — Central Intelligence Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, National Security Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigations, or even the Air Intelligence Agency — to name a few.

— Capt. Keith Shepherd Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Belgium

New beret

After skimming through the "The

Duly on the Home Front State of the State of

Reality check

I enjoyed your special issue "Today's Airman" [December 2004], but I think you should take a second look at the representation. Of the 24 Airmen chosen to represent the cross-section of the Air Force, 14 of them are female. Is that what the Air Force really looks like?

— Jerry Akers Tamai, Italy

You're correct. That ratio is not the accurate ratio currently held by the Air Force. However, we were more concerned with depicting the wide variety of undermanned career fields in the Air Force. We are sensitive to ensure we portray the diversity that exists in the Air Force — whether it be gender, ethnicity, or even rank and age. And of course, we're always looking for the standout story, regardless of the individual's personal "makeup." The numbers don't always come out perfectly, but we're happy to know you noticed the representation we were able to include.

Book" [January 2005], I noticed that the Survival, Evasion, Rescue and Escape beret was not included in the beret inventory listed on page 40. Thanks for the good work you do!

> — Brian Kumia Nashville, Tenn.

You're correct. The Air Force Uniform Board had several new items still in coordination at press time, including the beret you mentioned. We cannot include items until they are official. We'll be sure to include them in the 2006 edition.

Today's Airmen

I really enjoy reading the magazine anytime I can. Your special issue, "Today's Airmen" [December 2005], sparked up a conversation between me and my co-workers. We really enjoy how well you portrayed many of the career fields that hold the Air Force together and bring together a great team, but we were sort of discouraged when we did not see our career field in there. I understand that you have limited space and left a lot of career fields out, but I think being the largest career field and carrying very heavy weight that we should have been in. I am a proud member of the security forces (3P0X1) career field. I just want everyone to know how hard my teammates work and the heavy load that is put on us.

Via e-mail

The security forces career field is truly a hardworking group of Airmen. Every month we highlight a different career field in our "Profile" department. You're such an important asset that your career field was one of the first we spotlighted. Check out "Making the right impersonation" [June 2004, Pages 42 to 43].

Corrections for 'The Book 2005'

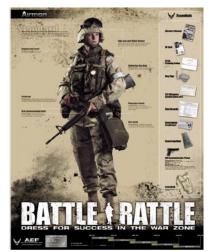
On page 9, the photo credit should read Tammy Prine.

On page 51, the photo for the E-9 is incorrect. The correct photo can be found at http://www.af.mil/news/

airman/0105/trans.shtml.

On page 59, the photo of the Atlas II is incorrect. The correct photo can be found at http://www.af.mil/ news/airman/0105/launch.shtml.

On the back cover, the photo credit should read Staff Sgt. Shane Cuomo.



'Battle Rattle' poster available online

The January poster insert, "Battle Rattle," is now available for download online. Check it out at http://www. af.mil/news/airman/0105/index.shtml.

Combat fitness

Airman is looking for some "combat fitness" exercises to highlight in our next poster insert in May. If you discovered a unique way to workout or unique items to workout with while in austere conditions away from a gym, we want to know. E-mail a description of the exercise to us at editor@afnews.af.mil. In the subject line, please write: Combat Fitness. People can also mail their ideas to Airman, attn: Combat Fitness. 203 Norton St., San Antonio, Texas 78226-1848.

Meet the Staff

Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles is an eight-year veteran from Long Island, N.Y., whose previous assignments included Onizuka Air Station, Calif.; Air Force News Agency, San Antonio; and Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. She recently transitioned to the Reserve, and in her civilian capacity serves as editor of the weekly newspaper at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. As an individual mobilization augmentee at Airman, she writes articles highlighting Air Force people and missions. If you have a story idea, call the Airman staff at (210) 925-7757, or drop us an e-mail at airman@afnews.af.mil.



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- Air Force Link: www.af.mil Airman and 6:12 p.m. (central time), and overseas on AFN at the 55-minute mark of the "Today Show" and "Good Morning America."
 - Air Force Report: 1-minute daily television report covering news and policy issues. Shown on the American Forces Radio and Television Service, the Pentagon channel and also available on Air Force Link at www. af.mil, then follow the "TV" link at the top of
 - Air Force Print News: www.af.mil/ news — The Air Force news wire service providing Air Force and Department of Defense news and information, with daily updates from around the world.
 - Airman: www.af.mil/news/airman - Feature and information magazine. Unit subscriptions: afnspub@afnews.af.mil.

